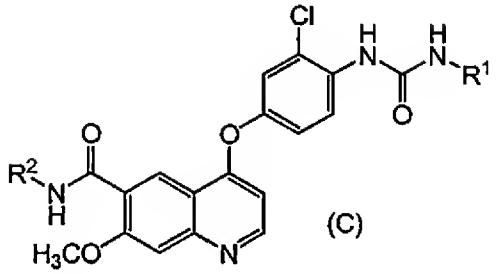
IN THE CLAIMS

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A process for preparing a compound (C) or a salt thereof represented by the following formula:

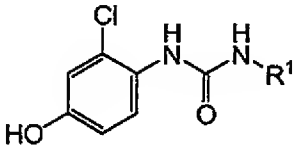
~~[Chemical Formula 9]~~



(C)

wherein ~~R[1] and R[2] have the same definitions as above~~ R^1 represents hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl or C_{3-8} cycloalkyl, and wherein R^2 represents hydrogen or methoxy, ~~characterized by~~ said method comprising reacting a compound (A-1) represented by the following formula:

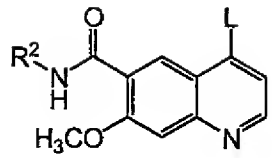
~~[Chemical Formula 7]~~



(A-1)

wherein R^1 has the same definition as above, with a compound (B) represented by the following formula:

~~[Chemical Formula 8]~~



(B)

wherein R^2 ~~represents hydrogen or methoxy~~ is defined as above, and L represents a leaving group.

11. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 10, ~~characterized by using~~ wherein the reaction is performed in the presence of a base.

12. (Original) A process according to claim 11, wherein the base is an alkali metal carbonate or an alkali metal alkoxide.

13. (Original) A process according to claim 11, wherein the base is cesium carbonate, potassium carbonate or potassium t-butoxide.

14. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 10, wherein R^1 is hydrogen, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl or cyclopropyl.

15. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 10, wherein R^1 is cyclopropyl.

16. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 10, wherein R^2 is hydrogen.

17. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 10, wherein L is chlorine.

18. (New) A process according to claim 10, wherein the reaction is performed in dimethylsulfoxide in the presence of cesium carbonate or potassium t-butoxide.